CBSE has also made a provision for single girl child in its two other scholarship schemes, namely CBSE merit scholarship scheme for under graduate students (@Rs. 500/- per month) and CBSE merit scholarship scheme for professional studies (@Rs. 1000/- per month).

UGC has also launched a Post Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarship Scheme for Single Girl Child under which 1200 scholarships per year @ Rs. 2000- p.m. will be provided. Besides, no tuition fees will be charged from such girls, who pursue Masters degree in Universities and Colleges covered under Sections 2(f) and 12(B) of the UGC Act.

Financial implications of "Fee Waiver to Single Girl Child" and "Post Graduate Indira Gandhi Scholarships" will be borne by the Schools affiliated to CBSE, and the University Grants Commission, respectively.

No, Sir.

Programmes for street children

*166. SHRI S. ANBALAGAN: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

whether Government have conducted any survey on the number of street children living Below Poverty Line in the country;

if so, the details thereof, State-wise;

whether Government have taken or propose to take any steps for imparting proper education and for the welfare of these students;

if so, the details thereof and the achievements made/proposed to be made thereon;

whether Government have taken note of the developments in this regard in other countries; and

if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MEIRA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The Central Government has not conducted any survey. According to information available, the Vagrancy Directorate, Government of West Bengal had carried out a mapping of the number of street children in 69 wards out of a total of 141 wards under Kolkata Municipal Corporation. As street children are those without their own home or family, they are generally below the poverty line.

(c) and (d) Under the Education Guarantee Scheme and Alternative and Innovation Education Scheme of the Department of Elementary Education and Literacy, flexible startegies like bridge courses, drop in centers, residential camps etc. are adopted for out of school children which includes street children. A total of 17.39 lakhs children were covered through various strategies under the scheme during 2004-05. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment is implementing a scheme "An Integrated Programme for Street Children" for prevention of destitution and withdrawal of children from a life on the street and their placement into national mainstream. Under the scheme, the non-governmental organizations poviding facilities like shelter, nutrition, health care, recreation as well as education (formal as well as non-formual), training in meaningful vocations, trades and skills are financially supported by the Ministry. A total of 44994 street children were covered during the 2004-05.

(e) and (f) The approach abroad is generally a balance between early childhood development activities so as to prevent the phenomenon of street children on one hand and provision of services like food, shelter, health care, education etc. to the street children who are in immediate need of these services on the other hand. The Government of India also implements the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) covering, health, nutrition etc., for children between 0 to 6 years, the Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan or education for all and the Integrated Programme for Street Children.

Action against fake universities

†*167. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

whether Government have issued any directions for closure of fake universities/educational institutes running in different States arid for taking action against the managers of such universities/educational institutes; and

if so, the States that have taken action to close these fake universities and also those where such institutes are still in operation?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH): (a) and (b) According to University Grants Commission Act, 1956, the right of conferring or granting degrees shall be exercised

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.